



Washington Urban District Council

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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

**Medical Officer of Health and  
Chief Public Health Inspector**

**FOR THE YEAR 1958**

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**R. C. F. SMITH,**

M.D., B.S. D.Ph., F.R.I.P.H., Medical Officer of Health

**J. MITCHELL,**

M.A.P.H.I., Chief Public Health Inspector

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1959

PELAW-ON-TYNE :

CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETY'S PRINTING WORKS







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# WASHINGTON URBAN DISTRICT

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## *Members of Council and Health Committee, 1958*

### **CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL**

Councillor C. HALL, J.P.

### **CHAIRMAN OF HEALTH COMMITTEE :**

Councillor C. HALL, J.P.

### **GREAT USWORTH WARD**

Councillor R. COATES, 14, Garsdale Avenue.

Councillor C. MCILROY, 34, The Drive.

Councillor Mrs. E. THOMPSON, 6, The Drive.

Councillor A. BOYD, 1, Coverdale Avenue.

### **SPRINGWELL WARD**

Councillor J. R. COXON, C.C., J.P., 5, Westfield Crescent.

Councillor Mrs. K. REED, 11, Shelley Avenue.

### **USWORTH COLLIERY WARD**

Councillor J. W. DRUMMOND, J.P., 40, Oxford Avenue.

Councillor J. GIBSON, 75, Tyne Gardens.

Councillor R. MCGLEN, Jnr., 68, The Oval.

Councillor W. OLDS, 40, Oxford Avenue.

Councillor W. TROTTER, B.E.M., J.P., 25, Richardson Terrace.

Councillor S. ARMSTRONG, 12, Vernon Street.

### **WASHINGTON WARD**

Councillor C. HALL, 13, Urban Gardens.

Councillor G. HASKETT, 40, Havannah Terrace.

Councillor W. HASKETT, B.E.M., 11, Havannah Terrace.

Councillor Mrs. A. TEMPEST, 6, The Green.

### **WASHINGTON STATION WARD**

Councillor M. ALLON, C.C., J.P., 4, Wear Terrace.

Councillor J. A. YOUNG, 11, Biddick Terrace.

Councillor J. MURDOCK, 22, Grassmere Terrace.

Councillor H. PRICE, 22, Romney Avenue.

Councillor M. BLAND, 21, Gainsborough Avenue.

Area in acres	....	....	....	....	....	5,758 acres
Registrar General's Estimate of Resident Population, mid-1958	....	....	....	....	....	17,980
Number of Inhabited Houses (31st December, 1958), according to Rate Books	....	....	....	....	....	5,700
Rateable Value (1st April, 1958)	....	....	....	....	....	£133,119
Sum represented by a Penny Rate....	....	....	....	....	....	£510

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CHAIRMAN OF HEALTH COMMITTEE :

Councillor C. HALL, J.P.

**Officials :**

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :

L. A. M. JOHNSTON, B.SC., M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.  
(Retired 31st July, 1958).

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :

R. C. F. SMITH, M.D., B.S., D.P.H.  
(Commenced 1st August, 1958).

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR :

J. MITCHELL, M.A.P.H.I.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR :

E. SOADY, M.A.P.H.I.



HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
COUNCIL OFFICES,  
WASHINGTON.

*To the Chairman and Members of the  
Washington Urban District Council.*

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I hereby present my First Annual Report on this district.

Dr. L. A. M. Johnston retired on the 31st July, 1958, and this is my five months' contribution, together with the seven months which was under the aegis of Dr. Johnston.

The following are the main features of the vital statistics. The estimated population of 17,980 shows an increase of 70 over the previous year. The increase of births over deaths was 164, the live birth rate was 18.02 per 1,000 of the estimated population, and the still birth rate was 0.667 per 1,000. There were 11 fewer deaths this year than last year, and the vast majority of deaths were people over the age of 65. Deaths from cancer were 36, coronary thrombosis and angina 30, a decrease of eight over the previous year, but "strokes" showed an increase, 27 cases this year as against 26 in 1957.

The number of infectious diseases notified during the year was 161, as compared with 344 in 1957.

Posters were distributed throughout the district to remind parents of the importance of having their children immunised against diphtheria. Tuberculosis posters were also displayed stressing the importance of early diagnosis. During the year 24 cases of tuberculosis were notified, as compared with 14 cases in 1957.

In November most of the 13-year-old children in the district were skin tested and, where negative, were immunised against tuberculosis with B.C.G. vaccine. There were 242 injections given.

This is a form of preventative medicine which is most essential in Urban districts, and it means that at least 80 per cent. of these children vaccinated are now, for a number of years, protected against tuberculosis. By the time this artificial immunity has worn off they will have built up their own immunity by means of probably contracting a mild dose of tuberculosis whilst they were thus protected.

Mass poliomyelitis vaccination was placed on a firm basis in the whole of No. 5 Area, i.e., this district—Houghton, Hetton and Sunderland R.D. A clerk from the Durham County Council staff is employed whole-time at Houghton-le-Spring Urban District office. Some 30 sessions were held monthly in the area. No case of poliomyelitis was reported in the Urban area during the year.

Examination of employees for the sickness benefit scheme, etc., was placed on a firm basis by fixing up an examination room, together with the necessary equipment.

Some lectures on old-age surveys were given.

I wish to acknowledge the support received from the members of the Council and the assistance given by the Council staff during my initial period of service.

REGINALD C. F. SMITH,  
*Medial Officer of Health.*

COUNCIL CHAMBERS.  
AUGUST, 1959.



## Health Services

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Administered by the County Council and the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

The following Health Services are administered by Durham County Council as the responsible Local Health Authority under the National Health Service Act :—

Ambulance.

Home Nursing.

Home Helps.

Preventative measures against Smallpox, Poliomyelitis,  
Diphtheria, and Tuberculosis.

Child Welfare and Maternity.

School Medical.

Welfare of the Aged.

Welfare of the Blind and Handicapped.

Health Visitors.

The County Council are also responsible for the administration of Part III of the National Assistance Act, 1948.

FOOD AND DRUG INSPECTORS are appointed by, and work under the direction of, the County Council.

VETERINARY INSPECTORS appointed by, and working under the direction of, the Ministry of Agriculture, being responsible for conducting routine examinations of the cow population throughout the County in order to maintain and raise the standard of health of said cows.

# Vital Statistics

## Births and Birth Rate

The net number of live births (as corrected by the Registrar General for outward and inward transfers) during 1958 was 334, compared with 342 for 1957.

Sex and Legitimacy are shown thus :—

### LIVE BIRTHS—

	Total	Male	Female	
Legitimate ....	326	179	147	} Giving a Birth Rate of 18·57 per 1,000 of the estimated population.
Illegitimate ....	8	2	6	

To exactly compare the Birth Rate in Washington Urban District with that for England and Wales, as a whole, it must be multiplied by a comparability factor of 0·93, giving a rate of 16·758 as compared with 16·4 for England and Wales.

The following table shows (i) the total number of births, (ii) the number of males born, (iii) the number of females born, (iv) the Birth Rate per 1,000 population, and (v) the total increase of population (i.e., the excess of births over deaths) for 1958, as compared with the years 1949–57 :—

Year	Total Births	Males	Females	Rate per 1,000	Total Increase
1949 ....	362	197	165	20·49	166
1950 ....	325	160	165	18·29	163
1951 ....	332	183	149	18·7	111
1952 ....	302	158	144	17·06	102
1953 ....	324	177	147	18·33	169
1954 ....	312	170	142	17·59	108
1955 ....	327	173	154	18·37	123
1956 ....	336	167	169	18·8	163
1957 ....	342	179	163	19·04	161
1958 ....	334	181	153	18·57	164

## Still Births

During 1958 there were 12 still births in the district.

### STILL BIRTHS—

	Total	Male	Female	
Legitimate ....	12	6	6	} Giving a Still Birth Rate of 34·68 per 1,000 total (live and still births).
Illegitimate ....	—	—	—	

There is a Still Birth Rate of 0·667 per 1,000 population in Washington Urban District, as compared with 0·35 for England and Wales.

## **Deaths and Death Rate**

The Registrar General reports that after correction for outward and inward transfers, 170 residents of the Washington area died during 1958, being 94 males and 76 females.

Locally compiled figures show that there were 103 deaths registered as having occurred within the district, being 57 males and 46 females.

Sixty-seven persons, being 36 males and 31 females, normally resident in the district, died outside the area. There were therefore 67 inward transfers.

During 1958, 170 residents of Washington died, being 94 males and 76 females.

The Death Rate for 1958, corrected for outward and inward transfers and including deaths from all causes and at all ages, was 9·12 for Washington Urban District, compared with 10·106 in 1957.

In order to compare the local figure with that for England and Wales, the former must be multiplied by a comparability factor of 1·35, giving a Death Rate for Washington of 12·312, whilst that for England and Wales is 11·7.

## **Total Deaths under Five Years (corrected locally)**

During 1958, 12 children died before attaining the age of five years, as compared with 10 in 1957. Ten children, being 4 males and 6 females, were under one year of age.

Therefore 7·05 per cent. of the total deaths were of children under five years of age, as compared with 5·52 per cent. in 1957.

## **Deaths in Institutions**

Of the 67 residents who died outside the area, 63 died in hospital, 2 in private homes, and 2 due to accident.

## **Maternal Mortality**

There were no deaths among women from puerperal sepsis, pregnancy, or abortion.



### Comparisons between England and Wales and Washington

The maternal mortality per 1,000 total live and still births, based on deaths which are primarily classed as due to diseases of pregnancy, childbirth, and the puerperal state, is shown in the following table :—

	ENGLAND AND WALES		WASHINGTON URBAN DISTRICT	
	Nos.	Rate	Nos.	Rate
Maternal Causes, excluding Abortion ....	263	0.35	0	0.000
Due to Abortion ....	63	0.08	0	0.000
Total Maternal Mortality ..	326	0.43	0	0.000

### Death Rate of Infants under One Year

During 1958 there were 10 children, being 4 legitimate males and 6 legitimate females, who died in the area before attaining the age of one year. This is equivalent to an infantile mortality rate of 29.94 per 1,000 live births, compared with 22.5 for England and Wahes.

In 1957 there were 9 children who died under one year of age, yielding an Infantile Mortality Rate of 26.31 (per 1,000 total births).

The following table shows the death rates for infants under one year of age, according to the total number of live births and legitimacy for the years 1949–1958 :—

Year	All Infants per 1,000 Live Births	Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births	Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births
1949 ....	52.49	53.98	0.00
1950 ....	30.77	30.91	0.00
1951 ....	42.17	43.81	0.00
1952 ....	19.86	20.54	0.00
1953 ....	37.03	37.97	0.00
1954 ....	16.02	15.57	0.00
1955 ....	36.69	35.5	0.00
1956 ....	23.8	23.3	0.00
1957 ....	26.31	25.56	0.00
1958 ....	29.94	30.67	0.00

The following table shows in detail the number and causes of deaths in infants during the first year of life, and also the deaths at the various ages.

**Infant Mortality during the year ended 31st December, 1958**

Cause of Death	Ages of Children						Total
Acute Pneumonia	....	3 weeks	....	....	....	....	1
Prematurity	....	....	5 days ; 3 days ; 15 hours ; 14 hours ; 13 hours ; 12 hours ; 12 hours ; 10 minutes	....	....	....	8
Acute Gastro-enteritis	....	5 months	....	....	....	....	1
							<hr/> 10 <hr/>

Since the total deaths in the district at all ages was 170, then 5·88 per cent. of the total were children under one year of age. Of these infants 20·0 per cent. were one week old or younger.

## Causes of Death in Washington Urban District during 1958

CAUSES OF DEATH						Males	Females
1.	Tuberculosis, Respiratory	....	....	....	....	....	....
2.	Tuberculosis, Other	....	....	....	....	....	....
3.	Syphilitic Disease	....	....	....	....	....	....
4.	Diphtheria	....	....	....	....	....	....
5.	Whooping Cough	....	....	....	....	....	....
6.	Meningococcal Infections	....	....	....	....	....	....
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	....	....	....	....	....	....
8.	Measles	....	....	....	....	....	....
9.	Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	....	....	....	....	....	....
10.	Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	....	....	....	....	4	3
11.	Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	....	....	....	....	6	5
12.	Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	....	....	....	....	....	3
13.	Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	....	....	....	....	....	1
14.	Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	....	....	....	....	11	3
15.	Leukaemia Aleukaemia	....	....	....	....	....	1
16.	Diabetes	....	....	....	....	....	....
17.	Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	....	....	....	....	16	11
18.	Coronary Disease, Angina	....	....	....	....	22	8
19.	Hypertension with Heart Disease	....	....	....	....	2	5
20.	Other Heart Disease	....	....	....	....	4	12
21.	Other Circulatory Disease	....	....	....	....	4	5
22.	Influenza	....	....	....	....	1	3
23.	Pneumonia	....	....	....	....	4	2
24.	Bronchitis	....	....	....	....	10	2
25.	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	....	....	....	....	....	....
26.	Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	....	....	....	....	....	....
27.	Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	....	....	....	....	1	....
28.	Nephritis and Nephrosis	....	....	....	....	....	....
29.	Hyperplasia of Prostate	....	....	....	....	....	....
30.	Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	....	....	....	....	....	....
31.	Congenital Malformations	....	....	....	....	....	....
32.	Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases	....	....	....	....	6	11
33.	Motor Vehicle Accidents	....	....	....	....	2	....
34.	All other Accidents	....	....	....	....	1	1
35.	Suicide	....	....	....	....	....	....
36.	Homicide and operations of War	....	....	....	....	....	....
ALL CAUSES						94	76



**Causes of Death**

**TUBERCULOSIS**

There were no deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis and no deaths from non-pulmonary tuberculosis during 1958.

COMPARATIVE TABLE

Year	No. of Deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis in Washington U.D.	Death Rate per 1,000 Population from Pulmonary Tuberculosis England and Wales	Death Rate per 1,000 Population from Pulmonary Tuberculosis in Washington U.D.	No. of Deaths from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis in Washington U.D.	Death Rate per 1,000 Population from Non- Pulmonary Tuberculosis England and Wales	Death Rate per 1,000 Population from Non- Pulmonary Tuberculosis in Washington U.D.
1949 ....	9	0.403	0.509	2	0.054	0.113
1950 ....	5	0.321	0.281	1	0.043	0.056
1951 ....	2	0.275	0.113	3	0.041	0.164
1952 ....	6	0.212	0.339	1	0.028	0.056
1953 ....	5	0.179	0.283	0	0.022	0.000
1954 ....	1	0.160	0.056	0	0.019	0.000
1955 ....	2	0.145	0.112	0	0.015	0.000
1956 ....	1	0.109	0.056	0	0.012	0.000
1957 ....	5	0.109	0.279	0	0.011	0.000
1958 ....	0	0.089	0.000	0	0.011	0.000

**HEART DISEASE  
AND DISEASE OF THE CIRCULATORY SYSTEM**

This includes :—

		Males		Females
Coronary Disease—Angina	....	22	....	8
Hypertension with Heart Disease....		2	....	5
Other Heart Disease	....	4	....	12
Other Circulatory Disease....	....	4	....	5
Total	....	32	....	30

Therefore in 1958 there were 62 deaths due to the above-named causes—that is 36.47 of the total deaths, or a death rate of 3.44 per 1,000 population. The percentage of total deaths in 1957 was 29.83 and the death rate 3.015.

# COMPARATIVE TABLE

Year	Total Deaths All Causes	Deaths due to Heart Disease	DEATH RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION		Percentage Total Deaths due to Heart Disease
			All Causes	Heart Disease	
1948 ....	177	46	10.09	2.62	25.99
1949 ....	196	55	11.09	3.11	28.07
1950 ....	162	42	9.12	2.36	25.92
1951 ....	221	61	12.47	3.44	27.6
1952 ....	200	53	11.29	2.99	26.55
1953 ....	155	48	8.77	2.72	31.0
1954 ....	204	72	11.51	4.06	35.29
1955 ....	201	60	11.29	3.37	29.85
1956 ....	173	53	9.68	2.9	30.64
1957 ....	181	54	10.106	3.015	29.83
1958 ....	170	62	9.12	3.44	36.47

## CANCER

This includes all malignant growths and diseases.

During 1958 there were 36 deaths certified as being due to malignant growths, being 21 males and 15 females. Of these 11 were due to cancer of lungs and bronchi and 7 to cancer of stomach, 3 breast, 1 uterus, and 14 to other malignant growths.

	England and Wales	Washington Urban District
Death Rate (per 1,000 population) cancer, lungs, and bronchi ....	0.439	0.61
Death Rate (per 1,000 population) other cancer ....	1.685	1.39

The following table shows the number of deaths in the area due to cancer, and the mortality rate from this disease in 1958 compared with the preceding 10 years :—

Year	NUMBER OF DEATHS			Mortality Rate per 1,000 Population
	Male	Female	TOTAL	
1948 ....	15	9	24	1.37
1949 ....	15	15	30	1.69
1950 ....	6	8	14	0.79
1951 ....	10	11	21	1.19
1952 ....	21	12	33	1.86
1953 ....	12	11	23	1.30
1954 ....	18	19	37	2.08
1955 ....	24	21	45	2.528
1956 ....	12	15	27	1.15
1957 ....	15	16	31	1.73
1958 ....	21	15	36	2.02

**Mass Radiography**

A survey carried out by the Unit at two locations in Washington during the 14th to 25th July, 1958, revealed the following :—

			Males		Females
Number X-Rayed	....	....	823	.....	549
Number recalled	....	....	53	.....	23
Number referred to Chest Clinic		....	16	.....	13
Number of Abnormalities revealed		....	25	.....	18
Number Pneumoconiosis	....	....	49	.....	—

**Diphtheria Immunisations**

The number of children in the Urban District who are recorded as having the complete course and those who have received the subsequent reinforcing or booster dose are given as follows :—

			Full Course		Boosters
0 to 5 years of age	....	....	550	.....	3
6 to 15 years of age	....	....	2,082	.....	811
			<hr/>		<hr/>
Total	....	....	<u>2,632</u>	.....	<u>814</u>



# Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

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## Water Supply

The water undertaking for the Urban Area has now been entirely taken over by the Sunderland and South Shields Water Co. from the Council. Water continues to be supplied as previously, that is part from the company's own reservoirs and part from the Newcastle upon Tyne and Gateshead Water Co., from whom a bulk supply is received at the western boundary of the Urban District.

The supply of water is satisfactory as regards both quantity and quality.

The only treatment installed in the supply system within the Urban District consists of a small Calgon dosing plant to reduce hardeners. The taking of samples for bacteriological and chemical analysis is carried out by the company.

The waters do not appear to have a plumbo solvent action.

Samples of main supply water taken during the year gave satisfactory results, there being no evidence of contamination.

All the dwelling-houses within the Urban District are supplied from public water mains by the method herewith tabulated :—

(1)	Direct to houses	....	....	....	....	5,659
(2)	By means of tap in yard or wash-house	....				41
						<hr/> 5,700 <hr/>

## Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

The sewage of the district is discharged into the River Wear at three points : one near Barmston Forge and two at Washington Staithes. The waste matter at Barmston only is treated in settlement tanks before being allowed to flow into the river. The settlement tanks were cleansed during September, 1958. The need for new sewage disposal works is recognised and is under consideration.

## Rivers and Streams

Favourable reports as to the condition of the various water-courses in the district were received during the past year.

## Closet Accommodation

At the end of the year the various types in use within the Urban District were as follows :—

	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
Water Closets..	6,243	6,291	6,408	6,493	6,467
Ash Closets ....	12	12	11	5	5
Elsan Closets ..	6	6	6	7	7

## Refuse Collection and Disposal

The collection and disposal of refuse within the Urban District was carried out by direct labour, except for 10 isolated houses which were controlled by contract.

The personnel included three foremen/drivers and 12 loaders.

The above adjustment was necessary and was in operation on 29th September, 1958, following the destruction of shop houses by fire on 27th May, 1958. The returns from salvaged paper greatly deteriorated during the previous six months, so that such a position did not justify the collection, sorting and storage previously carried out. After due consideration it was decided :—

- (1) To collect selected paper only with the minimum of time spent on sorting and storage, and with the specific purpose of reducing nuisance and fire on the two tips in use within the area.
- (2) To adjust the number of personnel in accordance with the decided policy.

A service varying from three to five days was maintained during the year to the community.

The number of dwelling-houses, shops and other premises dealt with totalled 5,880.

Test weights of loaded vehicles were taken during the year and, together with information returned in daily time sheets by the foremen, it was calculated that approximately 9,394 tons were collected for disposal, involving 3,091 loads and 353,790 calls. The tonnage collected is equal to 4·2 stones per call and 1 ton 12 cwt. per house, etc., per year.

Disposal of refuse during the year was as follows :—

Swinburn's Tip (Springwell)	....	4,894 tons
Biddick Tip	.... ..	3,100 „
Other Agricultural Land	.... ..	1,400 „

Agricultural land at Glebe Crescent was used as an emergency during January, February and March, when it was impossible to use the tip at Biddick. Controlled tipping was used at Glebe Crescent and was completed in April, 1958, and again ready for agricultural purposes. Approximately 1,000 tons of refuse were disposed of at the site.

Springwell tip was dealt with on three occasions for fire, and on one occasion for rat infestation. Biddick tip had on four occasions to be treated for fire and had three treatments for rat infestations.

#### EXPENDITURE.

				£	s.	d.
Cost of collection during the year	....	....	....	6,693	0	0
Cost of disposal during the year	....	....	....	3,106	0	0
TOTAL	....	....	....	<u>£9,799</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

#### INCOME.

					£	s.	d.
Trade refuse	....	....	....	....	173	12	0
Salvage	....	....	....	....	90	14	9
Other income	....	....	....	....	48	15	1
TOTAL	....	....	....	....	<u>£313</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>10</u>
Actual expenditure on Service	....	....	....	....	<u>£9,486</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

#### UNITS COSTS.

Expenditure per ton per annum	....	....	....	20/2.3d.
Expenditure per 1,000 houses, &c., per annum	....	£1,613	5s. 0d.	
Expenditure per 1,000 population per annum	....	£527	6s. 0d.	
Expenditure per house/shop/&c. per week	....	7.4d.		



Public Health Inspector's General Summary for Year 1958

	No. of Inspection s	No. of Informal Notices Served	No. of Statutory Notices Served	Defects Remedied After Notice
Housing :				
Public Health and Housing Acts....	1,861	159	5	92
Sanitary Conveniences :				
Insufficient	....	....	....	....
Defective	162	40	....	40
Drainage	107	56	....	55
Water Supply	82	26	....	28
Food Premises	276	5	....	5
Shop Acts	68	....	....	....
Dairies	....	....	....	....
Slaughter-houses :				
Public	....	....	....	....
Private	188	3	....	3
Tents, Vans, &c.	9	....	....	....
Offensive Trades	....	....	....	....
Factories and Workplaces	38	4	....	3
Keeping of Animals	16	....	....	....
Insanitary Ashpits and Receptacles....	167	107	....	104
Offensive Accumulations	14	2	....	2
Smoke Nuisances	9	2	....	....
Prevention of Damage by Pests				
Acts, 1949	279	6	....	5

Shops Act

During the year 68 visits and inspections of shops were made. .

Smoke Abatement

During the year no complaints were recorded in the department.

Washington Urban District being chiefly a mining area, the Council are keenly watching the developments in other areas under the Clean Air Acts, 1956, and studying the possibilities of the future. All new properties are subject to a limited number of open fires and, where installed, must be fitted with approved appliances.

Swimming Baths

There are no swimming baths in the Urban area.

## Rat Infestation

During the year maintenance treatments for rats within the area were carried out as recommended by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Infestation Control Division. A summary of the work entailed on surface infestations is given in the following table :—

Premises	Local Authority	Dwelling-houses	Agri-cultural	All other (including Business and Industrial)	TOTAL
1. Total number of properties in Local Authority's District...	*11	5,555	48	653	6,277
2. Number of properties inspected by the Local Authority during 1954 as result of (a) notification, (b) survey, (c) otherwise....	(a) 6	79	3	11	99
	(b) ....	126	10	15	151
	(c) 3	64	15	70	152
3. Number of properties (under 2) found to be infested by rats ....	5	9	2	2	18
4. Number of properties (under 2) found to be seriously infested by mice ....	...	51	....	17	68
5. Number of infested properties (under 3 and 4) treated by the Local Authority ....	5	60	5	19	89
6. Number of Notices served under Section 4—					
(i) Treatment ....	....	....	....	....	....
(ii) Structural Works (i.e., Proofing) ....	....	....	....	....	....
7. Number of cases in which default action was taken by Local Authority following issue of Notices under Section 4 ....	....	....	....	....	....
8. Legal Proceedings ....	....	....	....	....	....
9. Number of " block " control schemes carried out ....	Nil				

\* Figures given as per Valuation Roll on 31st December, 1958.

# Housing

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## 1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ....	698
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose....	1,861
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Acts ....	496
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose....	1,246
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ....	110
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ....	388

## 2. Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ....	373
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## 3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year

### (A) PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTIONS 9, 10 AND 12 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1957 :—

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs....	13
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :	
(a)	By owners ....	13
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners....	Nil

### (B) PROCEEDINGS UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS :—

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ....	2
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
(a)	By owners ....	2
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners....	Nil



(C) PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTIONS 16 AND 17 (1) OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1957 :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ....	7
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ....	7

(D) PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTION 18 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1957 :—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ....	Nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ....	Nil

During the period under review 207 houses were erected and occupied within the Urban District, viz. :—

Permanent houses by Local Authority ....	196
Houses built by Private Enterprise ....	11

4. **Overcrowding**

In the Urban District overcrowding is much in evidence, more particularly with regard to houses overcrowded by reason of more than one family being in occupation.

The following is a Summary of the Permanent Dwelling-houses, including number of Apartments erected by the Local Authority up to 31st December, 1958.

WARD	SIZE OF HOUSE OR TYPE					Total
	2BR	3BR	P.T.	A.P.	S.P.	
Washington ....	107	167	23	20	....	317
Washington Station ....	42	229	10	28	....	309
Springwell ....	26	128	....	16	....	170
Usworth Colliery ....	287	182	38	....	....	507
Great Usworth ....	264	859	....	76	22	1,221
TOTAL ....	726	1,565	71	140	22	2,524

The total number of dwelling-houses under the control of the Urban District Council is tabulated herewith :—

Permanent ....	2,524
Temporary ....	106
Others ....	2
	<hr/>
	2,632
	<hr/>

5. **Housing Act, 1949**

Applications submitted to Local Authority during 1958....	40
Applications rejected by Local Authority during 1958 ....	1
Total number of applications submitted since the inception of the scheme ....	128
Total number approved ....	120

6. **Rent Act, 1957**

Number of Certificates of Disrepair applied for during 1958 ....	5
Undertakings given by landlord (Form K) ....	3
Number of Certificates issued (Form L) ....	2
Number of Certificates cancelled ....	3

# Inspection and Supervision of Food

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## (a) Milk Supply

Details of licensing under the Food and Drugs (Milk and Dairies) Act, 1955, and the various Regulations made thereunder are given as follows :—

Licensed to sell Pasteurised Milk	....	1
Licensed to sell "T.T." Pasteurised Milk (Supplementary)	.... ....	2
Registered to sell "Sterilised" Milk	....	54

During the year regular samples of milk were taken and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Havelock Hospital, Sunderland, for examination. With one exception, all samples taken satisfied the Methylene Blue and Phosphatase tests.

There are no pasteurisation plants within the area, the bulk of milk being supplied to retailers by the Craven Dairies Limited and North-West Durham Co-operative Dairies Limited.

## (b) Inspection of Meat and Other Foods

Three licences were issued during the year with regard to premises for the slaughtering of animals for human consumption.

Regular slaughtering was carried out at one of the slaughterhouses, but in October slaughtering was terminated. Only occasional slaughtering is practised at the other two licensed premises.

Licences to slaughter were renewed to 19 persons for the ensuing year.

The following table is a record of inspections and condemnations carried out :—

	Cattle	Cows	Sheep	Pigs
Number killed	339	233	—	1
Number inspected	339	233	—	1
All cases except Tuberculosis—				
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	79	38	—	—
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than T.B.	23.3%	16.3%	—	—
Tuberculosis only—				
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—
Carcasses in which some part or organ was condemned	28	16	—	—
Percentage of number affected with Tuberculosis	8.2%	6.8%	—	—



Unsound foodstuffs, involving the issue of 236 certificates, were surrendered as unfit for human consumption during the year, and consisted of the following :—

Meat	....	....	....	....	....	309 lb.
Canned Meat and Meat Food Products	....					376 „
Canned Vegetables	....	....	....	....		248 „
Canned Fruit	....	....	....	....		317 „
Canned Fish	....	....	....	....		9 „
Canned Milk	....	....	....	....		27 tins
Other Foods	....	....	....	....		53 lb.
Dried Fruit	....	....	....	....		32 „
Sausage	....	....	....	....		17 „
Cake	....	....	....	....		24 „
Butter	....	....	....	....		1 „

(c) Ice Cream

Number of Producers Registered	....	....	2
Number of Retailers Registered	....	....	36

During the year 52 samples were submitted for bacteriological examination and the following results were obtained :—

Provisional Grade	No. of Samples
1 .....	41
2 .....	5
3 .....	4
4 .....	2

Apart from the ice cream sold by the two registered producers, most of the ice cream is of the pre-packed type, which is delivered to the small retail shops where it is stored in refrigerators. Control of motor vans retailing in the district is satisfactorily maintained.

# **FACTORIES ACT, 1937**

## **Part 1 of the Act**

### **1. Inspections** for purposes of provisions as to Health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

PREMISES	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ....	17	12	2	....
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ....	28	21	2	....
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ....	6	5	....	....
Total ....	51	38	4	....

### **2. Cases in which Defects were found**

PARTICULARS	Number of Cases in which Defects were found				Number of Cases in which Prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ....	2	2	....	....	....
Overcrowding (S.2) ....	....	....	....	....	....
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3) ....	....	....	....	....	....
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ....	....	....	....	....	....
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)—					
Insufficient ....	1	....	....	1	....
Unsuitable or defective ....	1	....	....	1	....
Not separate for sexes ....	....	....	....	....	....
Other offences (not including offences relating to out- work) ....	....	....	....	....	....
Total ....	4	2	....	2	....

**Notifiable Disease during the year 1958**

The incidence of infectious diseases, other than tuberculosis, as notified in the district during the period under consideration, the number of cases which received treatment in hospital, and the number of deaths from such infectious diseases are shown in the following table :—

DISEASES	Total Cases Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Smallpox ....	....	....	....
Scarlet Fever ....	71	....	....
Diphtheria ....	....	....	....
Enteric F. (incl. Paratyphoid) ....	....	....	....
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis ....	....	....	....
Puerperal Pyrexia ....	....	....	....
Erysipelas ....	....	....	....
Pneumonia ....	5	5	6
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ....	....	....	....
Measles ....	17	....	....
Whooping Cough ....	68	2	....
Dysentery ....	....	1	....
Poliomyelitis ....	....	....	....
Polioencephalitis ....	....	....	....
Food Poisoning ....	....	....	....
Total ....	161	8	6

**Prevention of Blindness**

Schemes for the above are entirely under the jurisdiction of the County Council.



Cases of Infectious Diseases during 1958 showing Age, Incidence, and Distribution

DISEASE	At All Ages	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED										WARDS					No. of Cases Removed to Hospital		
		0-1 year	1-2 years	2-3 years	3-4 years	4-5 years	5-9 years	10-14 years	15-24 years	25-44 years	45-64 years	65 and over	Washington	Washington Station	Usworth Colliery	Great Usworth		Springwell	
Scarlet Fever	71	...	2	4	6	7	43	9	...	...	...	...	11	24	9	27	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	68	4	9	9	10	9	27	...	...	...	...	...	13	4	27	24	...	...	1
Measles (excluding Rubella)	17	...	3	2	2	3	6	1	...	...	...	...	5	...	5	7	...	...	...
Pneumonia	5	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	2	...	3	...	...	1	1	...	5
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	20	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	5	2	8	2	5	2	6	4	3	...	11
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	4	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	2	1	1	...	...	1

**New Cases of Tuberculosis during 1958**

The following table shows the notification of tuberculosis, pulmonary and non-pulmonary, according to sex, for the year 1958, compared with the preceding 10 years :—

Year	PULMONARY			NON-PULMONARY		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
1948 ....	15	6	21	4	....	4
1949 ....	11	6	17	4	2	6
1950 ....	5	15	20	1	2	3
1951 ....	9	9	18	3	2	5
1952 ....	12	12	24	2	2	4
1953 ....	14	4	18	1	....	1
1954 ....	11	15	26	1	1	2
1955 ....	2	9	11	1	....	1
1956 ....	8	7	15	1	2	3
1957 ....	7	3	10	2	2	4
1958 ....	11	9	20	1	3	4

The following table shows the distribution of pulmonary and non-pulmonary tuberculosis notified in 1958, according to sex and ward incidence :—

Ward	Pulmonary Tuberculosis		Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis		Totals
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Washington ....	4	1	....	....	5
Washington Station ....	1	1	....	2	4
Usworth Colliery ....	3	3	....	1	7
Great Usworth ....	2	2	1	....	5
Springwell ....	1	2	....	....	3
Total ....	11	9	1	3	24

The following table shows the various age periods for males and females at which the new cases were notified and the age of those who died from tuberculosis :—

Age Period	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5 years....	1	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
5—15    „   ....	....	3	....	....	....	....	....	....
15—25   „   ....	2	3	....	1	....	....	....	....
25—45   „   ....	....	1	....	2	....	....	....	....
45—65   „   ....	6	2	1	....	....	....	....	....
65 and upwards	2	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Total   ....	11	9	1	3	....	....	....	....

### Occupation

The occupations of those who were notified during 1958 as suffering from tuberculosis were as follows :—

PULMONARY : 3 housewives, 2 chemical workers (one retired), 2 miners (one retired), 3 schoolchildren, 1 clerk, 1 H.M. Forces, 1 plater, 1 tailoress, 1 ships contractor, 1 pump attendant, 1 postmaster, 1 waitress, 1 unknown, 1 infant.

NON-PULMONARY : 1 housewife, 1 leatherworker, 2 unknown.

### Sites of Lesions in Non-Pulmonary Cases

1 hip, 1 glands of neck, 1 genito-urinary tract, 1 uterus.

### Examination of Sputa

Specimens of sputa sent by the family doctor or other medical practitioner are examined free at the Public Health Laboratory, Newcastle upon Tyne.











